TION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (e) Under the new Exim Policy the condition of MEP for VFC tobacco, ASTA Quality—MGI pepper, guar gum, orchids and meat of sheep, goat and buffalo was done away with as a measure of trade liberalisation. It is expected that such liberalisation would eventually help exports and also the farmers.

4230. [*Transferred to 25th August, 1993.*]

Constitution of Anti-dumping Practices Cell

4231. SHRI IQBAL SINGH :
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have constituted a high power cell to deal with anti-dumping practices;

(b) if so, what would be the main objectives of this cell; and

(c) if so, what is the extent to which the setting up of this cell has helped in checking anti-dumping practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) The Indian Customs Tariff Act, 1975, as amended in October, 1992, empowers Government to impose anti-dumping duties in those cases in which dumped imports are found to be causing material injury to the domestic industry. Before such a duty can be imposed, the Authority designated by the Government has to make a finding as to the export price, normal value, margin of dumping and injury to the domestic industry. The Central Government, on the basis of the findings, takes a decision on the imposition of anti-dumping duty.

Government has since put in place the necessary arrangements to investigate and redress cases of injurious dumping.

Anti-dumping actions are directed at the pricing policies of individual companies in respect of the products alleged to be dumped.

The designated authority has submitted the final findings in the anti-dumping investigation concerning import of PVC resin (Suspension Grade). The authority has recommended imposition of anti-dumping duty on imports of PVC resin (Suspension Grade) from Brazil, Republic of Korea, Mexico and USA. The designated authority has, in the preliminary findings concerning import of Bisphenol-A, recommended imposition of provisional anti-dumping duty on import of Bisphenol-A from Japan.

Assistance offered by Israel to Indian Exporters

4232. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Israel has offered assistance to Indian exporters and enterpreneurs wanting easy access to the USA, European Community and EFTA countries, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government are preparing any scheme to take advantage of such an offer, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the estimated volume of trade that the Government envisages through this channel and what are the implications thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Government have not received any such offer.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Irregularities committed in the Export Credit Scheme, 1968

4233. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) indicated to the Commerce Ministry, the irregularities committed in the Export Credit (Interest Subsidy) Scheme, 1968 leading to an excess payment of Rs. 7.68 crores between January 1, 1987 and March 31, 1991, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) what steps Government have taken to rectify the situation, the details thereof;

(c) whether CAG indicated to the Ministry that in the area of cash assistance there has

been cases of over-payment of Rs. 20.32 lakhs to misclassification; Rs. 16.28 lakhs due to non-application of the cut-off formula; Rs. 13.57 lakhs due to application of incorrect rates; irregular payment of Rs. 8.66 lakhs;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what steps Government have taken to remove the irregularities mentioned in (c) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The reports of Government auditors relating to individual branches of scheduled commercial banks are received by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and audit objections are taken up with the concerned branches of banks for settlement. Wherever interest subsidy has been wrongly claimed by banks, recoveries are effected and in case the objections raised by CAG auditors are not in conformity with procedures laid down by RBI, the position is duly explained to CAG's office for dropping the objections. After abolition of the Export Credit (Interest Subsidy) Scheme, 1968 w.e.f. 6th Aug., '91 RBI have directed all scheduled commercial banks to expedite compliance reports on outstanding audit objections. Following the Audit, Rs. 2.66 crores has been refunded by the banks to RBI up to 30th Sept., '91.

(c) to (e) The concerned port licensing authorities of the Director General of Foreign Trade have been directed to make recoveries from the concerned exporters in respect of the cases reported by the CAG involving over-payment due to misclassification, non-application of the cut-off point formula and incorrect application of CCS rates. It may be stated that the figures of over-payment reported by CAG due to non-application of correct CCS rate and irregular payments may be read as Rs. 12.40 lakhs and Rs. 6.02 lakhs respectively as against Rs. 13.57 lakhs and Rs. 8.66 lakhs mentioned in part (c) of the question. The Government have decided to waive the recovery in respect of cases involving over-payment of Rs. 12.40 lakhs due to non-application of correct rates.

Foreign Exchange Earned on Export of Marine Products

4234. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to MPEDA, total of Rs. 1,767 crores was earned as foreign exchange during 1992-93 from marine products;

(b) whether it is a fact that in US dollar-terms this figure is similar to marine products export earning during 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(c) the details of figures in the US dollar-terms for marine product exports during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(d) whether exports of marine products are stagnet in terms of foreign exchange earned; and

(e) if so, the reasons for such stagnation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Export figures in US Dollar-terms have been as follows:—

	US $ Mn.
1990-91	503.31
1991-92	561.22
1992-93	615.06

Source: MPEDA, Kochi

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

India-China border trade

4235. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are bleak prospects of India-China border trade picking up this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to encourage India-China border trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-